



Region 4

Applicant: Washtenaw County Michigan Works!

Main Contact: Jenny Bivens
555 Towner
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
(734) 544-2949
bivensj@ewashtenaw.org

Partners: Washtenaw County Michigan Works!

Counties

Included: Washtenaw

Regional Highlights:

MEGA-P

The Washtenaw County Michigan Works! Agency and its Workforce Development Board are developing an innovative partnership termed "MEGA-P" which will bring together local partners in new ways. These partners include Eastern Michigan University; Washtenaw Community College; Spark, Inc.-a community action entity; Washtenaw County Government, and the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti Area Chambers of Commerce. This endeavor offers an exceptional opportunity to maximize the use of existing workforce and economic services to develop more effective and innovative ways to increase workforce and economic service outcomes.

The MEGA-P Agreement includes provisions on how partners will coordinate in-service delivery and reference several critical tasks necessary for success. The partnership will ensure that all participants stay at the forefront of addressing the needs of Washtenaw County's existing and emerging businesses to help them stay competitive. Additional partners will be recruited on a continuing basis to further enhance the regional scope and availability of services to employers and workers.

WIRED

The Washtenaw County MWA is a partner with the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce on its virtual WIRED project. This project has received a substantial planning grant to help implement the region's economic development strategies. Washtenaw County will benefit substantially from the regional planning expertise available through the virtual WIRED project and can easily ensure that the MEGA-P plans operate in conjunction with any virtual WIRED project recommendations.

The initial MEGA-P plans have been finalized and the partners are ready to begin enhanced outreach to Chamber of Commerce members in an organized and coordinated manner. Specific activities, roles, commitments, and responsibilities have been outlined and agreed to. MEGA-P is a demonstrated business solution of value in Washtenaw County and its strategy for enhancement incorporates all of the values of creating a 21st Century Workforce coordinated regional strategy.